

ABSTRACT

A conduit for use in establishing flow communication between a breathing apparatus, such as a mouthpiece of mask, and a metabolic analyzer, such as that used for determining the resting metabolic rate (RMR) of an individual. At least a section of the conduit may be bent or otherwise manipulated into a desired configuration and substantially retain the desired configuration until being remanipulated. Such a desired configuration may at least partially support the breathing apparatus while an individual is in a resting position. Manipulable regions of the conduit may be formed by longitudinally collapsible and expandable tubing, such as corrugated tubing, from tubing that carries elongate compliant members that may be bent and will retain a desired configuration, from viscoelastic tubing, or otherwise, as known in the art. Methods for establishing communication between an individual's airway and a metabolic analyzer are also disclosed, as are methods for effecting RMR analyses.